

1. *Sold* by Patricia McCormick, prose-poetry fiction, child sexual slavery
2. *Looking for Alaska* by John Green, fiction, prep school & friends & death
3. *A Long Way Gone: Memoirs of a Boy Soldier* by Ishmael Beah, child soldier
4. *Boot Camp* by Todd Strasser, fiction, child abducted & sent to discipline camp
5. *The Hunger Games* by Suzanne Collins, fiction, reality show in the future
6. *The Five People You Meet in Heaven* by Mitch Albom, fiction, life after
7. *The Invention of Hugo Cabret* by Brian Selznick, fiction, art + story
8. *The Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian* by Sherman Alexie, memoir
9. *Nineteen Minutes* by Jodi Picoult, fiction, school shooting & back story
10. *Couldn't Keep it To Myself* by Wally Lamb, short stories written by prisoners
11. *Go Ask Alice* by Anonymous, diary of honors student to drug addict
12. *They Poured Fire On Us From the Sky: Stories from the Lost Boys of Sudan*
13. *The First Part Last* by Angela Johnson, fiction, teen boy raises child alone
14. *The Book Thief* by Markus Zusak, fiction, holocaust, German life, Death
15. *21: Bringing Down the House: the Inside Story of Six M.I.T. Students Who Took Vegas*
16. *North of Beautiful* by Justina Headley, fiction, living with a port wine stain
17. *A Thousand Splendid Suns* by Khaled Hosseini, fiction, girls' life in Afghanistan
18. *The Art of Racing in the Rain* by Garth Stein, fiction, told by the dog, a mystery
19. *Prep* by Curtis Sittenfeld, fiction, life inside an American prep school
20. *13 Reasons Why* by Jay Asher, suicide leaves behind reasons why she did it
21. *Guitar Girl* by Sara Manning, fiction, rock star in Britain as a teenager
22. *Vernon God Little* by DBC Pierre, fiction, accused of school shooting, on the run
23. *The Fellowship of the Ring* by J.R.R. Tolkien, fiction, hobbits fight evil
24. *Maus: A Survivor's Tale: My Father Bleeds History* by Art Spiegelman, graphic novel
25. *If I Stay* by Gayle Forman, fiction, in a coma deciding to live or die
26. *Mountains Beyond Mountains* by Tracy Kidder, non-fiction, Paul Farmer/Haiti
27. *Upstate* by Kalisha Buckhanon, fiction, letters between prison & girlfriend back home
28. *Catalyst* by Laurie H. Anderson, senior meeting college deadlines
29. *After the Wreck, I picked myself up spread my wings and flew away*, J.C. Oates
30. *Copper Sun* by Sharon Draper, historical fiction, slave & indentured servant
31. *The Rose that Grows from Concrete* by Tupac Shakur, diaries & poetry
32. *Deadline* by Chris Crutcher, fiction, senior dying & telling no one
33. *The Burn Journals* by Brent Runyan, memoir, suicide attempt's aftermath
34. *The Glass Castle* by Jeannette Walls, memoir, poverty & survival
35. *The Freedom Writers Diary* by Erin Gruwell, letters from L.A. students
36. *Reading Lolita in Tehran* by Azar Nafisi, memoir, teaching in Iran
37. *Running with Scissors* by Anthony Burroughs, memoir, insanity & survival
38. *Eats, Shoots & Leaves* by Lynne Truss, entertaining grammar & usage guide
39. *The Worst Hard Time* by Timothy Egan, non-fiction, survive the Dust Bowl
40. *American Born Chinese* by Gene Luen Yang, graphic novel, fiction
41. *The Attack* by Yasmina Khadra, fiction, inside a suicide bomber's life
42. *Can't Buy Me Love: The Beatles, Britain, and America* by Jonathan Gould
43. *Crank* by Ellen Hopkins, prose-poetry fiction, addiction and devastation
44. *The Kite Runner* by Khaled Hosseini, fiction, Afghanistan boyhood & escape
45. *Water for Elephants* by Sara Gruen, fiction, life in the circus
46. *True Stories: Guides to Writing from your Life* by Rebecca Rule & Sue Wheeler
47. *Three Cups of Tea* by Greg Morgenstern, memoir, building schools in Pakistan

48. *The Places Inbetween* by Rory Steward, memoir, walk through Afghanistan
49. *Black Girl/White Girl* by Joyce Carol Oates, fiction, college roommates disaster
50. *Rules* by Cynthia Lord, fiction, a sister living with brother's autism
51. *Twisted* by Laure H. Anderson, fiction, boy in love and in trouble with school
52. *Shark Girl* by Kelly Bingham, prose-poetry fiction, arm bitten off by shark
53. *Lies Across America: what our historic sites get wrong* by James Loewen
54. *The Double Bind* by Chris Bohjalian, fiction, Gatsby characters modern mystery
55. *The Rule of the Bone* by Russell Banks, fiction, young drug dealer on the run
56. *Educating Esme: Diary of a Teacher's First Year* by Esme Codell, memoir
57. *It's Not About the Bike* by Lance Armstrong, autobiography of cancer
58. *The Space Between* by Don Aker, boy goes to Mexico to lose his virginity
59. *The Sledding Hill* by Chris Crutcher, fiction, boy fights book banning & dad's death
60. *A Lesson Before Dying* by Ernest Gaines, condemned to die, what he's learned
61. *The Road* by Cormac McCarthy, the end of the world survival of father & son
62. *The Astonishing Life of Octavian Nothing, Vol. I* by Mt. T. Anderson, sci-fi
63. *Into Thin Air* by Jon Krakauer, memoir, death on Mt. Everest
64. *Cold Mountain* by Charles Frazier, historical fiction, Civil War life
65. *Without a Map* by Meredith Hall, memoir, pregnant at 16, adoption, meeting up later
66. *All I Did Was Ask* by Terry Gross, interviews with famous folks, short stories
67. *On the Road* by Jack Kerouac, fiction, partying across the country & back
68. *Angela's Ashes* by Frank McCourt, memoir, growing up poor in Ireland
69. *Before I Die* by Jenny Downham, fiction, a teenager's bucket list
70. *The Cider House Rules* by John Irving, fiction, abortion & orphans & NE life
71. *Snow Falling on Cedars* by David Guterson, fiction, life for Japanese in WWII
72. *The Joy Luck Club* by Amy Tan, fiction, life in America for immigrants
73. *Street Pharm* by Allison van Diepen, fiction, drug dealer on the streets
74. *My Sister's Keeper* by Jodi Picoult, fiction, child used for bone marrow for sister
75. *Push: a Novel* by Sapphire, fiction, sexual abuse, poverty, ignorance
76. *Q & A: Slumdog Millionaire* by Vikas Swarup, fiction, life in India for poor
77. *The Stand* by Stephen King, fiction, good vs. evil at the end of the world
78. *Drums, Girls, and Dangerous Pie*, fiction, little brother with leukemia
79. *Keeping You a Secret* by Juliann Peters, fiction, lesbian relationship
80. *Fight Club* by Chuck Palahniuk, fiction, psychological thriller
81. *The Poisonwood Bible* by Barbara Kingsolver, fiction, life in Africa for missionaries
82. *The Red Tent* by Anita Diamant, fiction set in Biblical times
83. *Women in the Material World* by Faith D'Aluisio & Peter Menzel, non-fiction
84. *Paper Towns* by John Green, fiction, girl disappears, friends try to find her
85. *Forever Changes* by Brendan Halpin, fiction, CF girl dying as a senior in HS
86. *Post Secret: Extraordinary Confessions from Ordinary Lives* by Frank Warren
87. *Ways to Live Forever* by Sally Nichols, fiction, 11-year-old dying
88. *The Hungry Planet: what the world eats* by Peter Menzel, non-fiction + photos
89. *How to Breathe Underwater* by Julie Orringer, short fiction stories
90. *50 50* by Dean Karnazes, memoir, marathon runner
91. *Skim* by Mariko Tamaki, graphic novel, fiction, goth at private girls' school
92. *Willow* by Julia Hoben, fiction, accident, orphan, cutting and depression
93. *A Wreath for Emmett Hill* by Marilyn Nelson, epic sonnet on lynching of young boy
94. *The Last True Story I'll Ever Tell* by John Crawford, memoir, Iraq War soldier
95. *Outliers* by Malcolm Gladwell, non-fiction, how successful people make it

Getting Guys to Read (and in the Flow)

~Kaehny, Kittle & Mahan, NCTE 2009

-a small selection of titles to hook reluctant male readers – student recommendations-

Gritty City Life

Brothers in Arms (Bluford High) – Anne Schraff*
Brothers Torres – Coert Voorhees
Crank - Ellen Hopkins*
Dopesick – Walter Dean Myers
Homeboyz - Alan Lawrence Sitomer*
Kerosene – Chris Wooding
Paranoid Park – Blake Nelson
Pure Sunshine – Brian James
Response - Paul Volponi
Ten Mile River - Paul Griffin
Tweak – Nic Sheff
Tweaked - Katherine Holubitsky

Gotta' Think a Little (action/suspense)

Freeze Frame – Heidi Ayrabe
Graveyard Book – Neil Gaiman
Maximum Ride - James Patterson*
Point Blank – Anthony Horowitz
Rat Life – Ted Arnold
Reality Check – Peter Abrahams
Runner - Carl Deuker

I'm a Smartass (smart/witty)

Absolutely True Diary of a Part-Time Indian – Sherman Alexie
Abundance of Katherines – John Green
Be More Chill - Ned Vizzini
Deadline - Chris Crutcher
Fat Kid Rules the World - K.L. Going
I Am a Genius...Class President - Josh Lieb
I Love You, Beth Cooper - Larry Doyle
King Dork - Frank Portman
Slam – Nick Hornby
Someday This Pain Will be Useful to You – Peter Cameron
Spanking Shakespeare - Jake Wizner

Gangs, Crime, and Hard Time

A Place to Stand - Jimmy Santiago Baca
Always Running - Luis Rodriguez
Blue Rage, Black Redemption – Stanley Tookie Williams
Chameleon – Charles R. Smith Jr.
Cheating Life, Stealing Death - Eddie Guerrero
Do or Die – Leon Bing
If I Grow Up – Todd Strasser
Monster – Walter Dean Myers
Monster: Autobiography of LA Gang Member – Sanyika Shakur
My Bloody Life...Latin King – Reymundo Sanchez
Prep – Jake Coburn
Snitch/Street Pharm – Allison van Diepen

Headcases - Bitter and Out of Whack

Afterlife – Gary Soto
Breathing Underwater – Alex Flinn
Boy Toy - Barry Lyga
Carter Finally Gets It – Brent Crawford
Episodes – My Life as I See It – Blaze Ginsberg
Head Case – Sarah Aronson
Inside Out – Terry Trueman
Right Behind You – Gail Giles
Gospel According to Larry – Janet Tashjian
Stoner and Spaz – Ron Koertge
Thirsty – MT Anderson
Twisted – Laurie Halse Anderson

Life Sometimes Just Sucks

Bottled Up – Jaye Murray
First Part Last – Angela Johnson
Lockdown – Diane Tullson
Perks of Being a Wallflower - Steven Chbosky
Shattered Glass – Gail Giles
Sucker Punch – David Hernandez
Tyrell - Coe Booth

Man vs. Wild (survival/adventure)

Alabama Moon - Watt Key
Between a Rock and a Hard Place – Aron Ralston
Enrique's Journey – Sonia Nazario
Into the Wild/Into Thin Air – Jon Krakauer
La Linea – Ann Jaramillo
Touching Spirit Bear – Ben Mikaelson

Picture This (graphic novels)

American Born Chinese - Gene Luen Yang
Bleach – Tite Kubo*
Dramacon – Svetlana Chmakova*
Into the Volcano – Don Wood
Naruto – Masashi Kishimoto*

Sweaty Jocks (sports books)

Ball Don't Lie/Mexican Whiteboy - Matt De La Pena
Black and White/Rucker Park Set Up – Paul Volponi
Comfort - Carolee Dean
Crackback - John Coy
Drift – Manuel Luis Rodriguez
Drift X – Todd Strasser/Craig Phillips*
Goal! The Dream Begins – Becker et. al*
Players - Joyce Sweeney
Pop - Gordan Korman
Racing Fear – Jacqueline Guest
Raiders Night - Robert Lipsyte
Why I Fight – J. Adam Oaks

Swords, Sorcerers, and Spaceships

Cirque du Freak/Demonata - Darren Shan*
Ender's Game - Orson Scott Card*
Eragon/Inheritance – Christopher Paolini *
Halo series – various authors*
House of the Scorpion – Nancy Farmer
Hunger Games – Suzanne Collins*
Lord of the Rings - JRR Tolkien*
Ranger's Apprentice - John Flanagan*
Redwall – Brian Jacques*

War

Fallen Angels/Sunrise Over Fallujah – Walter Dean Myers
Purple Heart – Patricia McCormick
Daniel's Story – Carol Matas
Search and Destroy – Dean Hughes

*part of a series

GUY TALK - Dear Teachers: Thoughts about guys and reading - quotes from urban and suburban HS

A book has to make a movie in my head.

Guys like good events in a book, something that will lead one good event to another.

Reading isn't fun if it is forced upon you.

Guys would rather stare at a rock than read.

Reading is not worth my time.

I hate anything teachers make me read.

If it doesn't have cussing and action, I don't want to read it.

Books tend to not keep our focus and they portray weird images and symbols we just don't care about.

In my opinion most books corrupt the mind into false realities.

Books are only good if you put pictures in them.

If you give us boring books we will turn to internet or television for entertainment. I'm lucky my dad is a sci fi geek.

I hate it when teachers make us read books that are like 3000 years old.

I'll read it if another guy says it's a good book, and I'll read it if a cute girl says it's good – but if a teacher recommends it for the whole class to read, I get suspicious.

It's true...

47% guys surveyed like to read
52% have read more than 10 books
100% say CHOICE MATTERS

Getting Girls to Read (and in the Flow) ~Hartman & Kittle, IRA 2010

a small selection of titles to hook reluctant female readers

I Think I'm in Love

Confessions of a Not It Girl—Melissa Kantor
Jason/Kyra—Dana Davidson
North of Beautiful—Justina Chen Headly
Perfect Chemistry—Simone Elkeles
The Nature of Jade—Deb Caletti
Vegan Virgin Valentine—Carolyn Mackler

Are Guys Worth It?

Boys, Girls & Other Hazardous Materials—Rosalind Wiseman
Crushed—Tom and Laura McNeal
heart on my sleeve—Ellen Wittlinger
Honey, Baby, Sweetheart—Deb Caletti
jumping off swings—Jo Knowles
The Secret Life of Prince Charming—Deb Caletti
Zig Zag—Ellen Wittlinger

I'm Gay and Okay

Far From Xanadu—Julie Ann Peters
Girl 2 Girl—Julie Ann Peters
Keeping You a Secret—Julie Ann Peters
Love and Lies—Ellen Wittlinger
Luna—Julie Ann Peters
Rage—Julie Ann Peters

How Did I Get Into This Mess?

Close to a Killer—Marsha Qualey
Fake ID—Walter Sorrells
Finding Zola—Marianne Mitchell
Heist Society—Alley Carter
Jumped—Rita Williams-Garcia
Spy Goddess: Live and Let Shop—Michael P. Spradlin
What I Saw and How I Lied—Judy Blundell

Strong Girls

Burning Up—Caroline Cooney
Catalyst—Laurie Halse Anderson
Define Normal—Julie Ann Peters
Finding Miracles—Julia Alvarez
Going, going—Naomi Shihab Nye
Hunger Games—Suzanne Collins
Lives of our own—Lori Hewett
Margaux with an X—Ron Koertge
Prom—Laurie Halse Anderson
Sisterhood of the Traveling Pants—Ann Brashares
The Killing Sea—Richard Lewis
The Legend of Buddy Bush—Sheila Moses
Three Little Words—Ashley Rhoades-Courter

What Was I Thinking?

Bad—Jean Ferris
boy proof—Cecil Castellucci
Can't Get There From Here—Todd Strasser
Cut—Patricia McCormick
Glass—Ellen Hopkins
Harmless—Dana Reinhardt
Memoir of a Teenage Amnesiac—Gabrielle Zevin
Not Like You—Deborah Davis
Pure—Terra Elan McVoy
Sandpiper—Ellen Wittlinger
Story of a Girl—Sara Zarr
The White Horse—Cynthia Grant

Do I Really Belong Here?

Call me Maria—Judith Ortiz Cofer
Estrella's Quinceanera—Malin Alegria
Finding Miracles—Julia Alvarez
Nothing Here But Stones—Nancy Oswald
Return to Sender—Julia Alvarez
Sofi Mendoza's Guide to Getting Lost in Mexico—Malin Alegria
Swimming to America—Alice Mead
The Secret Story of Sonia Rodriguez—Alan Sitomer

Go to the Colorado Writing Project website (www.coloradowritingproject.org) for the past three years of Karen and Sheila's annotated YAL book talking lists.

Families Can Drive You Crazy

Contents Under Pressure—Lara M. Zeises
Cuba 14—Nancy Osa
Fancy White Trash—Marjetta Geerling
Here Today—Ann Martin
If I Have a Wicked Stepmother, Where's My Prince?—Melissa Kantor
Miracle on 49th Street—Mike Lupica
Ostrich Eye—Beth Cooley
Pepperland—Mark Delany
The Serious Kiss—Mary Hogan
Tune In Anytime—Caroline Cooney
Wild Roses—Deb Caletti

It's My Body

Alt Ed—Catherine Atkins
Life in the Fat Lane—Cherie Bennett
Big Fat Manifesto—Susan Vaught
Sister Slam and the Poetic Motormouth Road Trip—Linda High
The Earth, My Butt, and Other Big Round Things—Carolyn Mackler
Unexpected Development—Marlene Perez

Doing the Right Thing Isn't Easy

Bad Girls, Bad Girls—Cynthia Voight
Brutal—Michael Harmon
Friction—E.R. Frank
Hit the Road—Caroline B. Cooney
Lucas—Kevin Brooks
The Fortunes of Indigo Skye—Deb Caletti

History Matters

Chains—Laurie Halse Anderson
Choke Creek—Lauren Small
Copper Sun—Sharon Draper
Counting on Grace—Elizabeth Winthrop
Fire From the Rock—Sharon Draper
Hattie Big Sky—Kirby Larson
In My Enemy's House—Carol Matas
Monkey Town—Ronald Kidd
Sold—Patricia McCormick
Under the Persimmon Tree—Suzanne Fisher Staples
Weedflower—Cynthia Kadohata

Love in the Land of Fantasy/Sci-Fi

A Kiss in Time—Alex Flinn
Beastly—Alex Flinn
Eternal—Cynthia Leitich Smith
Pay the Piper—Jane Yolen and Adam Stemple
Psyche in a Dress—Francesca Lia Block
Shadowland: The Immortals—Alyson Noel
Shiver—Maggie Stiefvater
Twilight (and the other books in the series)—Stephenie Meyer
This World We Live In—Susan Beth Pfeffer
Wicked Lovely—Melissa Marr

Pyscho Girls

After—Amy Efav
Black Box—Julie Schumacher
By the Time You Read This, I'll be Dead—Julie Ann Peters
Speak—Laurie Halse Anderson
wintergirls—Laurie Halse Anderson

Life Sometimes Just Sucks

Beneath My Mother's Feet—Amjed Omar
Cold Hands, Warm Heart.—Jill Wolfson
Dirty little secrets—C.J. Omololu
Lush—Natasha Friend
November Blues—Sharon Draper
Pop Princess—Rachel Cohn
Tangled—Carolyn Mackler
The Chosen One—Carol Lynch Williams

Death and Dying

Aimee—Mary Beth Miller
Before I Die—Jenny Downham
Before I Fall—Lauren Oliver
Blind Faith—Ellen Wittlinger
Cures for Heartbreak—Margo Rabb
Dear Zoe—Phillip B eard
Fade Far Away—Frances Lantz
Forever Changes—Brendan Halpin
Hate You—Graham McNamee
If I Stay—Gayle Foreman
Let's Get Lost—Sarra Manning
The Truth About Forever—Sarah Dessen
Thirteen Reasons Why—Jay Asher
Willow—Julie Hoben
Would You—Marthe Jocelyn
You Know Where to Find Me—Rachel Cohn

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